



JPW

**PATENT**  
**Serial No: 10/614,862**  
**Docket No: 29284-596**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventors : Yasuo Inoue Confirmation No.: 8144  
Serial No. : 10/614,861  
Filed : July 9, 2003  
For : EXTERNAL STORAGE SUBSYSTEM  
Group : 2182  
Examiner : Alan S. Chen

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

**Mail Stop - Amendment**  
Commissioner For Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants respectfully respond to the Office Action mailed November 29, 2004 as follows: